

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:88
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2005
SHORT SUPPLY OF COAL TO POWER PROJECTS
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of thermal power plants in the country at present;
- (b) whether there is an acute shortage of coal in these power plants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to import coal to meet the said shortage;
- (e) if so, the details of the steps taken so far in this regard;
- (f) the States where power generation capacity has not increased during the last three years; and
- (g) the efforts being made by the Government to increase the generation capacity?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER(SHRI P.M. SAYEED)

(a) to (g) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 88 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 29.07.2005 REGARDING SHORT SUPPLY OF COAL TO POWER PROJECTS.

(a) : There are 144 coal, lignite, gas, and liquid-fuel based thermal power stations of more than 20 MW capacity in the country.

(b) & (c) : A number of thermal power stations in the country are facing problem of inadequate supply of coal. As on 24th July, 2005, thirteen (13) thermal power stations were 'critical' i.e. having coal stock of less than seven (7) days. Out of these, five (5) thermal stations were 'super critical' i.e. having coal stock of less than four (4) days.

The coal allocated by Ministry of Coal for the power sector is inadequate to meet the requirement of coal for thermal power plants (TPSs) for meeting the generation targets and building the stock to normative level. During the Quarter-I (April to June, 2005) against the total demand of 86,910 Thousand Tonnes, the linkage given by the Ministry of Coal was 77,286 Thousand Tonnes and actual receipt at power stations was 68,959 Thousand Tonnes. For Quarter-II (July to September, 2005), against the demand of 81,585 Thousand Tonnes the linkage is 73,893 Thousand Tonnes.

(d) & (e) : Import of coal has been planned to build the coal stock at TPSs to reasonable level. Efforts are being made to import 13.45 million tonnes (MT) of coal by the select thermal power stations during the current year, i.e. 2005-06.

(f) : There has not been any increase in power generation capacity during the last three years in the following States/Union territories:

Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Punjab, Bihar, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Lakshadweep, Chandigarh, Pondicherry, Dadra, Nagar & Haveli, Daman & Diu.

(g) : Following efforts are being made by the Government to increase the generation capacity:

(i) A target of 41,110 MW capacity addition has been set in the 10th plan (2002-07) consisting of 14,393 MW hydro, 25,417 thermal and 1,300 MW nuclear power.

(ii) Regular review meetings are being held at the highest level to monitor the timely completion of power projects and resolve various outstanding issues.

(iii) Early stabilization of newly commissioned units.

(iv) Creation of Joint Ventures, encouragement for greater participation by private entrepreneurs, announcement of hydro policy laying emphasis on basin-wise development, etc., three stage clearance procedure, ranking study of potential sites, 50,000 MW hydro electric initiatives and advance action for capacity addition in 11th Plan and beyond to boost hydro power development.

(v) Provision of funds by the Central Government through Rural Electrification Corporation and Power Finance Corporation so that a good project with reasonable tariff should not be hampered on account of lack of funds. Ministry of Power & Central Electricity Authority keep a close watch for timely completion of sanctioned and on-going thermal power stations in the central, state and private sector. Project-wise bottlenecks are identified, remedial measures are suggested and concerned project authorities are advised to undertake requisite steps/action to overcome the constraints.